

561
Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year Ending 31st December, 1928.

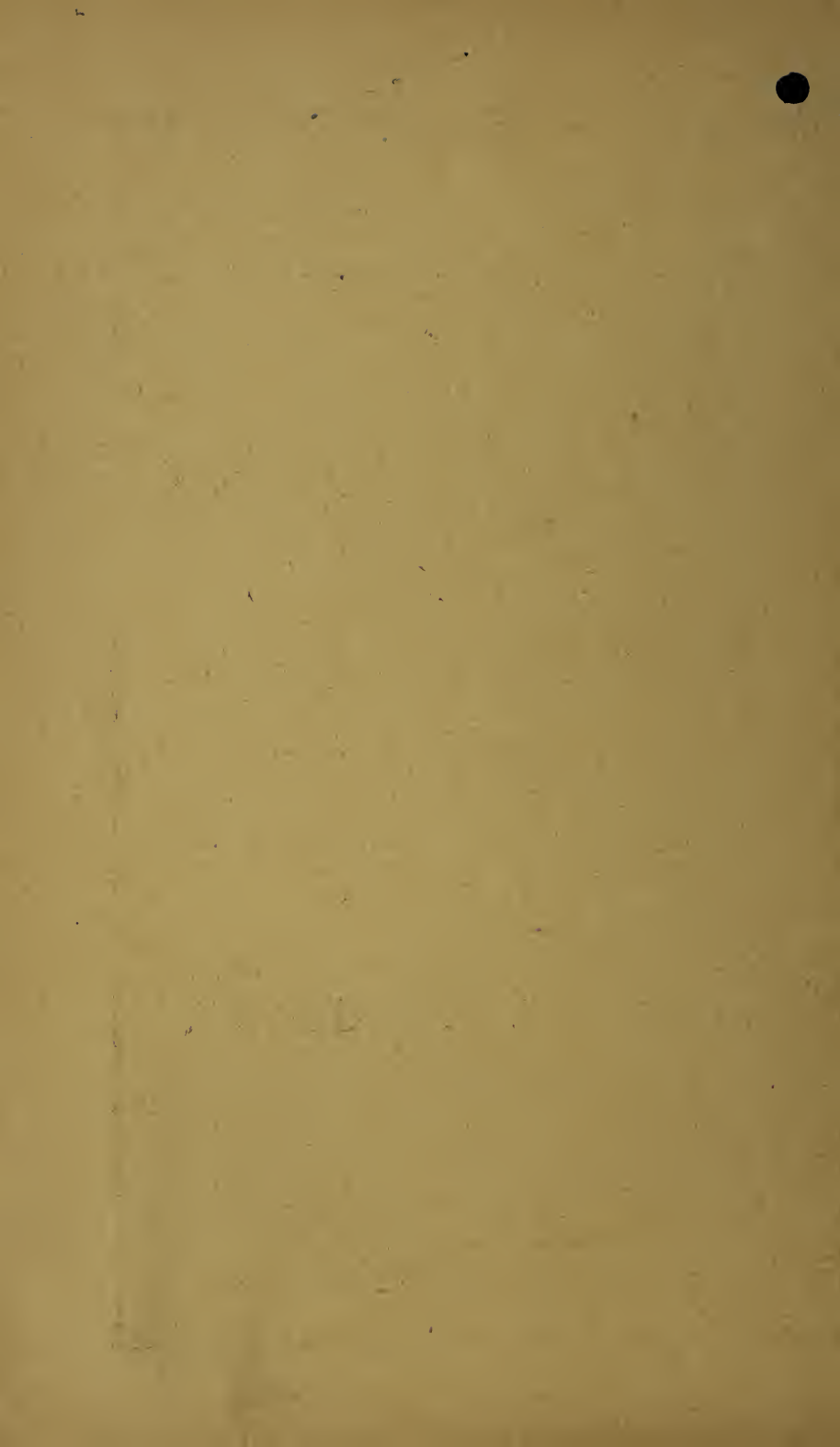
BY

ARNOLD S. L. BIGGART,

M.B., Ch.B.

WEST HARTLEPOOL:

E. HUDSON, Printer and Stationer, 75, Church Street.



Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority,

1929.

CHAIRMAN - - T. CLARKSON, J.P.

West Hartlepool Representatives :

T. CLARKSON, J.P., Westbourne Road, West Hartlepool.
W. T. RYAN, Wilton Avenue, West Hartlepool.
A. HYDE, J.P., Kenmara, Park Road, West Hartlepool.
J. W. BOANSON, J.P., 57, Church Street, West Hartlepool.
G. E. HOPE, The Cedars, Westbourne Road, West Hartlepool.
A. H. CROSS, 5, Queensberry Avenue, West Hartlepool.
W. J. WATT, Clifton Avenue, West Hartlepool.
W. G. ROPNER, Hartdale, West Hartlepool.
J. H. FARMER, Highlands, Wooler Road, West Hartlepool.
W. A. SMITH, J.P., Upper Church Street, West Hartlepool.

Hartlepool Representatives :

G. WILLIAMSON, 2, Beaconsfield Square, Hartlepool.
W. O. ATKINSON, Middleton, Hartlepool.
T. J. GROVES, 14, Scarborough Street, West Hartlepool.
F. J. CARR, 2, Gladstone Street, Hartlepool.
T. BULMER, 10, Brougham Street, Hartlepool.

Fixed Days of Meeting :

At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.

| | | | | | |
|----------|------------|------|------------|---------|------------|
| January | 17th, 1929 | May | 16th, 1929 | Sept. | 19th, 1929 |
| February | 21st, „ | June | 20th, „ | October | 17th, „ |
| March | 21st, „ | July | 18th, „ | Nov. | 21st, „ |
| April | 18th, „ | | | Dec. | 19th, „ |

EACH DAY AT 3 P.M.

Hospital Committee :

T. Clarkson, G. Williamson, G. E. Hope, T. Bulmer, and
J. H. Farmer.

Finance Committee :

All the Members of the Authority are Members of this Committee.

Port Committee :

All the Members of the Authority are Members of this Committee.

THE COMMITTEES MEET AT 2-45 P.M. ON THE SAME DAY AS THE
MONTHLY MEETING IS HELD.

Officers :

Clerk : C. GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66, Church St.,
West Hartlepool. Tel. 2850.
Medical Officer : A. S. L. BIGGART, M.D., 116, Scarboro' St., West Hartlepool.
Surveyor : F. DURKIN, A.M.I.C.E., Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.
Inspector : O. P. MITCHELL, C.S.L., 24, Town Wall, Hartlepool.
Assistant inspector : R. S. JONES, Port Sanitary Hospital, Hartlepool.



ANNUAL REPORT.

WEST HARTLEPOOL,

FEBRUARY, 1929.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, I herewith submit to you the Annual Report of the work carried out in the Port during the year 1928. Particulars are also given of the work done at the Port Sanitary Isolation Hospital.

I. Hospital.

During the year ending 31st December, 1928, there were 181 cases admitted into Hospital as compared with:—

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 177 cases in 1927 | 85 cases in 1922 |
| 300 „ 1926 | 155 „ 1921 |
| 228 „ 1925 | 201 „ 1920 |
| 264 „ 1924 | 217 „ 1919 |
| 161 „ 1923 | 150 „ 1918 |

Of these 181 cases there were:—

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|--|------------|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | 87 cases as compared with 105 cases in 1927. | | | |
| Diphtheria | ... | 80 | 65 | „ | „ |
| Typhoid Fever | ... | 2 | 1 | „ | „ |
| Erysipelas | ... | 3 | 1 | „ | „ |
| Scarlet Fever and Measles | 1 | „ | 3 | „ | „ |
| Measles | ... | 0 | 1 | „ | „ |
| Erysipelas and Pneumonia | 0 | „ | 1 | „ | „ |
| Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria | ... | 6 | 0 | „ | „ |
| Scarlet Fever and Chicken Pox | 1 | „ | 0 | „ | „ |
| Diphtheria and Measles | ... | 1 | 0 | „ | „ |
| | | <u>181</u> | <u>177</u> | | |

Of these 181 cases, there came from:—

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|------------|
| County Borough of West Hartlepool | ... | ... | 153 cases. |
| Borough of Hartlepool | ... | ... | 24 „ |
| Rural District | ... | ... | 4 „ |
| | | | <u>181</u> |

There were 10 deaths during the year, giving a percentage of 5.52 as compared with 5.08 in 1927, and 5.3 in 1926.

The deaths were made up as follows:—

9 from Diphtheria.

1 „ Typhoid Fever.

The average age of patients was 9.36 years as compared with 9.4 in 1927, and 8.6 in 1926.

There were 85 male patients and 96 female patients.

Hospital Staff.—This consists, at present, of a Matron, a Sister, 2 Probationer Nurses, a Laundress, Cook, Housemaid, 2 Ward Maids and a Porter.

Hospital Accommodation.—There are 50 beds at the Hospital. For Scarlet Fever there are 3 Wards, for Diphtheria 1 Ward, and for Typhoid Fever 1 Ward. The Hospital is, generally speaking, well equipped and in a good state of repair.

Table A.

1.—Amount of Shipping entering the Port Sanitary District during the year 1928.

| 1928 | Number of Arrivals | Tonnage | Number Inspected. | | Number reported to be De-fective. | No. of Vessels on which defects were remedied. | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----|
| | | | By the Medical Officer of Health. | By the Sanitary Inspector. | | | |
| Foreign | (Steamers | 679 | 824,405 | 13 | 660 | 47 | 47 |
| | Motors | 26 | 11,390 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 |
| | Sailing | 2 | 453 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | (Fishing | ... | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Foreign ... | | 707 | 836,328 | 13 | 673 | 48 | 48 |
| Coastwise | (Steamers | 814 | 634,250 | 1 | 677 | 29 | 29 |
| | Motors | 8 | 1,946 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| | Sailing | 22 | 2,926 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | (Fishing | ... | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Coastwise ... | | 844 | 639,122 | 1 | 682 | 29 | 29 |
| Total Foreign and Coastwise | | 1,551 | 1475,450 | 14 | 1,355 | 77 | 77 |

The following figures show the number of vessels of each nationality inspected :—

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Belgian | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Danish | ... | ... | ... | 83 |
| Danzig (Free State) | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Dutch | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Esthonian | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Finnish | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| French | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| German | ... | ... | ... | 99 |
| Greek | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Italian | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Jugo Slav | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Latvian | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Norwegian | ... | ... | ... | 75 |
| Russian | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Spanish | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Swedish | ... | ... | ... | 202 |
| British | ... | ... | ... | 785 |
| Total | | | | 1,355 |

II.—Character of Trade of Port.

Passenger Traffic during 1928.—This, not being an approved Port under the Aliens Order, 1920, for the landing of aliens, there is no regular traffic. The few alien passengers who land here are sent to the Tyne for examination.

Cargo Traffic.

The Principal Trade of the Port for 1928 was:—

IMPORTS.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|------------|----------|
| Sleepers | ... | ... | ... | 22,337 | loads. |
| Pit Props | ... | ... | ... | 254,980 | „ |
| Deals, Battens and Boards | ... | ... | ... | 118,471 | „ |
| Ash, Beech, Birch, etc. | ... | ... | ... | 16,794 | „ |
| Cratewood, Crown-trees, Firewood, etc. | ... | ... | ... | 2,173 | „ |
| Mining Timber, Square and Round | ... | ... | ... | 4,228 | „ |
| Masts, Poles, Rickers, etc. | ... | ... | ... | 295 | „ |
| Brushwood, Clocks, etc. | ... | ... | ... | 1,037 tons | 15 cwts. |
| Corn, Flour, Meal | ... | ... | ... | 108 | „ 5 „ |
| Eggs | ... | ... | ... | 168 | „ 9 „ |
| Fruit and Vegetables | ... | ... | ... | 1,080 | „ 3 „ |
| Sugar | ... | ... | ... | 360 | „ 0 „ |
| Bricks, Cement and Clays | ... | ... | ... | 5,468 | „ 1 „ |
| Ballast, Chalk, Gravel, etc. | ... | ... | ... | 2,638 | „ 8 „ |
| Ore (Iron and Zinc) | ... | ... | ... | 14,028 | „ 2 „ |

EXPORTS.

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------|----------|
| Coal and Coke | ... | ... | 2,838,785 tons | 19 cwts. |
| Total, including Bunker Coal | ... | ... | 3,265,768 tons. | |

Taken from the Hartlepool Port and Harbour Commissioners "Return of the Trade of the Port for the year ending 31st December, 1928," by the courtesy of Mr. John W. Goldson, Secretary to the Commission.

Timber and Pit Props are imported from Russian, Norwegian, Swedish and Baltic Ports. Oak Logs and Sleepers from Dantzig. Pitch Pine from Texas. Zinc Ore from Australia. Eggs from Denmark. Wood Pulp from Norway, Sweden and Finland. Chalk, Loam, Clay and Bricks from London and Antwerp.

Coal and Coke is exported to Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Baltic Ports, France, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Jugo Slavia, Germany, Greece and North African Ports; also Coal to London and Channel Ports.

The year 1928 showed a decrease in the imports of the port as compared with the year 1927, whilst on the other hand, a considerable increase took place in the principal export of coal and coke.

It is anticipated that, with the revival in the Shipbuilding trade and its allied industries, together with increased coaling facilities to be provided by the L. & N.E. Railway Company, the future will see a substantial increase in the trade of the Hartlepoons.

Inspectors' Monthly Reports.

| Date of Report. | Description of Ship. | | | Nationality. | | Trade Engaged in | | Total Ships Examined. | Sanitary Conditions. | | Written Notices Served. | Verbal Notices. | Total Written and Verbal Notices. |
|-----------------|----------------------|------|-------|--------------|--------|------------------|--------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Steam | Sail | Motor | B'tish | F'r'gn | Coast | F'r'gn | | Good. | Bad | | | |
| 1927. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 18th | 51 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 22 | 29 | 22 | 51 | 48 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| February 15th | 87 | 0 | 0 | 49 | 38 | 48 | 39 | 87 | 80 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| March 14th | 82 | 0 | 1 | 55 | 28 | 45 | 38 | 83 | 80 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| April 18th | 96 | 0 | 1 | 70 | 27 | 59 | 38 | 97 | 93 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| May 16th | 103 | 0 | 1 | 71 | 33 | 59 | 45 | 104 | 98 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| June 20th | 118 | 0 | 1 | 69 | 50 | 59 | 60 | 119 | 115 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| July 18th | 107 | 1 | 0 | 60 | 48 | 48 | 60 | 108 | 100 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 8 |
| September 19th | 274 | 2 | 4 | 144 | 136 | 120 | 160 | 280 | 267 | 13 | 2 | 11 | 13 |
| October 17th | 113 | 0 | 2 | 58 | 57 | 53 | 62 | 115 | 110 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| November 14th | 122 | 1 | 1 | 64 | 60 | 50 | 74 | 124 | 116 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 8 |
| December 31st | 184 | 0 | 3 | 116 | 71 | 112 | 75 | 187 | 171 | 16 | 1 | 15 | 16 |
| Total for 1928 | 1337 | 4 | 14 | 785 | 570 | 682 | 673 | 1355 | 1278 | 77 | 7 | 70 | 77 |
| Total for 1927 | 1421 | 4 | 8 | 835 | 598 | 604 | 829 | 1433 | 1354 | 79 | 2 | 77 | 79 |

III.—Source of Water Supply.

The water for the Ports of Hartlepool and West Hartlepool and for shipping in the Ports is supplied by the Hartlepool Gas and Water Company. All vessels requiring water while in port obtain their supply through hydrants from the several quays or wharves where the service is laid. There are no water boats in use in the Port. The water, though hard, is of excellent quality.

IV.—Infectious Disease.

1. The Regulations made by the Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority in 1886, revised and approved by the Local Government Board in 1908, and again revised and approved by the Ministry of Health in 1928, require the Master or other person having charge of a ship, arriving within the jurisdiction of the Authority with any person on board, whether a passenger or a member of the ship's crew, suffering from a dangerous infectious disease, to stop on arrival in the outer Bay, and forthwith send notice to the Inspector, at his Office, No. 24, Town Wall, Hartlepool, in order that the Inspector may cause the Medical Officer of Health to visit the vessel. Should the weather be such as to endanger the safety of the vessel, she may be brought into Port and moored at convenient buoys. The vessel must remain in the outer Bay or alternatively at the Buoys until medical inspection has taken place. The Medical Officer of Health shall, as soon as practicable, visit the ship and ascertain whether such person referred to in the notice is suffering from a dangerous infectious disease, and, if so, cause such person to be removed to the Hospital of the Port Sanitary Authority (or in the case of Small Pox, to Middlesbro' Small Pox Hospital) the Master, or other person in charge of the ship, to comply with the directions of the Medical Officer of Health.

If any dangerous infectious disease should break out on board any ship on arrival in the Dock or Harbour, the Master or person in charge is required to give notice of such outbreak to the Inspector.

The Inspector's house and office, which is the property of the Port Sanitary Authority, commands a view of the Hartlepool Bay so that, not only can the arrival in the Bay of a ship be observed, but also any "Day" or "Night" signals. This enables the Inspector to make speedy arrangements for the visit of the Medical Officer of Health should his attendance be necessary.

2. There are no arrangements in force for the receipt by this Authority of wireless messages relating to the health of inward vessels. It would certainly facilitate the work of the Authority if, in the case of vessels fitted with wireless, and having known or suspected infectious disease on board, it was required to send a message stating the probable time of arrival in port.

Occasional wireless messages are received by Ship Owners and Ship Brokers in the port and if there is any special reason for doing so, we are advised of the probable time of arrival of the vessel. Verbal messages relative to sickness on vessels in port are received also from Customs Officers, Pilots, Ship Brokers and Dockmasters.

With regard to vessels from "Infected" and "Suspected" Ports, lists are periodically issued to Customs Officers, Pilots and Dockmasters. These are amended as occasion requires. Upon arrival from listed ports, day or night signals are shown and the vessel proceeds, if no sickness is reported, to some convenient mooring to await the visit and inspection by the Medical Officer. This is done with as little delay as possible.

In the meantime no unauthorised person is allowed to board or leave the vessel. Notification of arrival of any such vessel and where she is to be berthed is given by telephone either by day or night by Customs Officers and Dockmasters to the Port Sanitary Inspector, who in turn notifies the Port Medical Officer.

Vessels are visited by the Port Sanitary Inspector either on arrival or as soon after as possible and enquiries are made into the health of the crews and as to whether there has been any sickness or deaths during the voyage. Printed notices in different languages, are left with the Master or Officer in charge requiring notification to the Port Sanitary Authority of the existence of any infectious disease occurring during the ship's stay in port.

3. Pilots are the first persons to visit vessels on arrival. They board all vessels either foreign or coastwise in the Bay and for this purpose they possess an excellent steam cutter and a motor launch. H.M. Customs Waterguard Officers are the next persons to board all vessels on arrival from foreign and occasionally coastwise vessels. For vessels moored at the buoys in the Harbcur or in Dock, the Customs row boat is used; otherwise the vessel is boarded at the quayside. The Port Sanitary Inspector boards most vessels from foreign and as many coastwise as possible on arrival, or as soon after as circumstances permit. Vessels at buoys are boarded by means of either the ship's boat or a hired foy boat.

4. Cases of infectious disease—other than Small Pox—are sent to the Port Sanitary Hospital, Throston, Hartlepool. Cases of Small Pox are sent to Middlesbrough Small Pox Hospital. Contacts can be sent to hospital for observation or allowed to remain on board. If contacts are allowed to leave a vessel notification is sent to Medical Officers of areas concerned.

5. Infected quarters are disinfected by the Port Sanitary Inspector, and bedding, clothing, etc., are sent to the Port Sanitary Hospital where a Washington Lyons Steam Disinfector is in use.

6. By an arrangement with the West Hartlepool Corporation their Burn Road Cleansing Station can be used for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous seamen and their belongings. During 1928, no case requiring such treatment came under my notice.

7. A horse ambulance is used for the transport of cases to the Port Sanitary Hospital, whilst Small Pox cases are conveyed to Middlesbro' by motor ambulance.

8. Inquiries are made by the Port Sanitary Inspector as to the existence of cases of venereal disease on ships, and if any exist, treatment at the West Hartlepool Clinic is recommended. Leaflets on the subject, giving time and place of clinic are distributed on incoming vessels.

9. This Authority has appointed Dr. Cookson, Bacteriologist and Pathologist of Sunderland Infirmary, to examine and report on any rats sent to him from this port. It was not considered necessary to send any rats for such examination during the year 1928.

10. No arrangements for other bacteriological examinations exist in this port.

During the year 1928 no case of infectious disease occurred on vessels arrived in the port. On three occasions notification was received regarding Small Pox contacts on coasting vessels: the cases having occurred at South Shields. The vessels concerned were the S.S. "Horden," arrived from London on

February 17th. A message from Shields received on February 19th, stated the boatswain's wife had died in hospital there and had suffered from Small Pox. The vessel was visited and the members of the crew, including the boatswain, were examined and found in good health. The boatswain who stated that he had not seen his wife during her illness, was paid off and his berth fumigated. The Medical Officer of Health, South Shields, was advised of his return home.

S.S. "Redriff." Advice was received on May 17th that a seaman notified at South Shields as a case of Small Pox had left the vessel on May 11th supposed to be suffering from rheumatism. As this vessel had left here for London prior to advice being received, London was immediately advised and action taken there.

S.S. "Corbrae." The messroom boy's brother was reported by the South Shields Medical Officer of Health as a reported Small Pox case. It was ascertained that the messroom boy was at sea during his brother's illness. He was re-vaccinated at South Shields and did not re-join his ship here.

TABLE C.

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels.

| Disease. | No. of cases during 1928. | Average No. of cases for last 5 years. |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Measles | Nil | .2 |
| Diphtheria | Nil | .2 |

TABLE D.

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during voyage, but disposed of prior to arrival.

| Disease. | No. of cases during 1928. | Average No. of cases for last 5 years. |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Small Pox | 1 | .6 |

V.—Measures against Rats and Rodents.

This year shows a decrease in the number of vessels deratised after arrival in the port. This is accounted for partly through the decline in the number of vessels arriving but mainly due to the action taken at other ports, home and abroad, and also the periodical fumigation of vessels which has now become a world-wide process. A lesser reason is the fact that the modern vessel is more rat-proof in construction than the older vessels.

1. In ships in the port the steps taken for the detection of rodent plague are as follows:—Enquiries are made as to whether the vessel has come from, during recent voyages, plague infected areas; as to the presence of rats or as to abnormal infestation or unusual sickness or mortality among them. Recent fumigation certificates are examined and results noted. If considered necessary, specimen rats are obtained and sent to Dr. Cookson, Sunderland, for bacteriological and pathological examination. No occasion has arisen during the year when it was considered necessary to take such action.

The quays, wharves, warehouses, &c., in the vicinity of the port do not come within the jurisdiction of this Authority. The responsibility for the detection of rodent plague in these rests jointly between the County Borough of West Hartlepool and the Durham County Council. During 1928 a complaint was made by this Authority to the Durham County Council regarding the reported prevalence of rats on certain quays and wharves within their jurisdiction. The matter was taken up by the Durham County Council with the London & North-Eastern Railway Co., who caused immediate action to be taken by their Rat Catcher against rats in the places complained of.

2. To prevent the passage of rats between ships and shore the use of rat guards is recommended generally but insisted upon in cases of infested vessels. If infested vessels possess no rat guards for their mooring ropes this Authority supply and charge for the use of same.

3. (a) The method of deratisation, where a vessel is found to be infested, is that of poisoning. The work is done by the Durham County Council's Rat Executive Officer under agreement with this Authority. The work is done expeditiously when commenced and satisfactorily so far as rat destruction is concerned for there has never been any complaint about the presence of rats after the work was completed. Every part of the ship above and below deck, requiring treatment, is dealt with.

The method has its disadvantages in the fact that, as it is nobody's particular business on a ship to collect dead rats, the number destroyed can only be estimated and that poisoned rats may die in out of the way places creating a serious nuisance. We are required by the Ministry of Health to give particulars of the colours and numbers of rats destroyed during each month and throughout the year. It is only possible to supply this information correctly by means of trapping rats.

(b) The deratisation of premises in the vicinity of the docks mainly concerns the L & N.E. Railway Co., who employ their own rat catcher. Traps and poison bait are used, and for rat runs a machine for pumping sulphur gas.

A number of cats are kept in the large warehouses and no doubt do much to keep down the rat population.

4. Measures taken for the Detection of Rat Prevalence on Ships. On boarding all vessels the Inspector makes enquiries from masters and crews as to the prevalence of rats, obtains particulars as to deratisation and examines Fumigation Certificates when produced. If not satisfied with such enquiries a search is made and if he has reason to believe that the vessel is infested, action is immediately taken under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

5. Rat Proofing. (a) Quays are mostly built of stone but there are several wood quays and jetties. The latter are periodically tarred and do not offer much inducement to rat breeding. The warehouses are substantially built of stone, iron, brick and cement, and may be considered as reasonably rat proof as such erections can be made. There is only one small warehouse built of wood.

(b) The modern ship with its iron store rooms, iron bulk-heads and ironwork generally offers few facilities for the harbouring or breeding of rats. Where in older ships it is sometimes found that the construction of store rooms, ceilings and other places tend to harbour rats, and that such places can be made rat proof, such alterations are recommended.

Sanitary Convention of Paris, 1926.

Attention may be drawn to Article 28 of the above, which states that all vessels, excepting those engaged in national coastal services, will have to be in possession of a Deratisation Certificate or Deratisation Exemption Certificate, valid for six months and which must be produced on demand. These certificates can only be issued at certain ports approved by the Ministry of Health. Should application be made by this Authority for this port to be placed on the list of accredited ports the question of a whole-time Rat Catcher will have to be considered. If this port does not afford facilities for the issue of these Certificates vessels will have either to go to an approved port or get the work done abroad.

RATS DESTROYED DURING 1928.

TABLE E.

I. On Vessels.

| Number of | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | Sept. | October | Nov. | Dec. | Total in Year |
|---------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-------|---------|------|------|---------------|
| Black Rats | 450 | 0 | 0 | 150 | 203 | 188 | 488 | 112 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 180 | 1,771 |
| Brown Rats | 150 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 67 | 62 | 162 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 589 |
| Rats Examined | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rats Infected with Plague | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

TABLE F.
2. In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

| Number of | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total in Year. |
|---------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-------|------|------|------|----------------|
| Black Rats | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brown Rats | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rats Examined | 13 | 17 | 31 | 12 | 17 | 13 | 21 | 12 | 7 | 13 | 15 | 26 | 197 |
| Rats Infected with Plague | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

The above particulars have been furnished by the courtesy of Mr. R. Tate, Local Manager of the London-North Eastern Railway Company.

TABLE I.

Measures of Rat Destruction on Vessels (other than those included in Tables G and H) and number of Certificates issued in respect of such Vessels during 1928.

| Number of Vessels Fumigated by S.O.2 | Number of dead Rats recovered | Number of Vessels Fumigated by H.C.N. | Number of dead Rats recovered | Number of Vessels on which Trapping, Poisoning, &c., were employed. | Number of dead Rats recovered | Number of Certificates issued on Form Port* | | Number of other Certificates issued |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | Deratisation | Exemption | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 11 | 2360 | Nil | Nil | 9 Deratisation 5 Ex'mpt'n |

*Form Port 11 is issued only by Port Medical Officers of Health of Ports approved by the Ministry of Health for the issue of Deratisation and Deratisation Exemption Certificates in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of the International Sanitary Convention of 1926.

VI.—Hygiene of Crew Spaces.

The housing of seamen in modern ships shows a marked improvement. The lower forecastles with their insufficient lighting, dampness, imperfect and difficult drainage, and lack of proper ventilation are seldom seen. The top gallant forecastle being above deck is considerably better in many ways than the lower forecastle but in most new vessels of the larger type the crews are berthed in the poop aft. Here it is possible to secure more cubic space and these quarters possess advantages of ventilation, lighting, heating and general comfort far more than are found in

the older vessels. Wooden bunks are being replaced by iron beds, oil lamps by electric light, and slow combustion stoves by steam heaters. Better bathing facilities and more w.c.'s with up-to-date flushing arrangements are also in evidence.

On the 1355 vessels inspected, 77 were found to have nuisances on board, most of which were caused by ordinary wear and tear. This gives a percentage of 5.6. All nuisances were remedied before the vessels left in the port.

TABLE J.
Classification of Nuisances.

| Nationality of Vessel. | Number Inspected during 1928. | Defects of Original Construction. | Structural Defects through wear and tear. | Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health. |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| British ... | 785 | 3 | 21 | 33 |
| Other Nations ... | 570 | 5 | 36 | 18 |

VII. Food Inspection.

1. Public Health (Imported) Food Regulations, 1925, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

No chilled or foreign meat is imported into this port and and there was no food imported requiring action to be taken under the above regulations.

List of Imported Foodstuffs Examined during the year 1928.

(The quantities given are approximate.)

| | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-------------|
| Barley | ... | ... | 715 Bags |
| Eggs | ... | ... | 379 Cases |
| Potatoes | ... | ... | 12,783 Bags |
| Peas | ... | ... | 120 Bags |
| Sugar | ... | ... | 3,350 Bags |

2. Fish Market. This comes under the supervision of the Hartlepool Corporation Sanitary Officials, who visit the market daily and inspect fish intended for sale. Unsold fish and offal is removed to a factory within the Borough to be converted into fish meal, etc.

Shell-fish. There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of this Authority.

3. No sample of food was sent for examination during the year.

I have to express my thanks to the Officers of H.M. Customs at the port, also to the Dock Superintendent, Harbour Master and Dock Masters of the London & North-Eastern Railway Co., and to the Pilot Master and Pilots for co-operation with the Officers of the Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority in carrying out their various duties.

ARNOLD S. L. BIGGART, M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.



